

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3949

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, TH

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE CHOSEN

1. AT ITS SESSION DEC 1 THE THAI NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY APPROVED THE GOVERNMENT'S NOMINATION OF TEN MEMBERS OF THE 35-MEMBER CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND ELECTED 25 OTHER MEMBERS.

2. THE TEN MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT WERE: KHUKRIT PRAMOT (FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE FORMER SOCIAL ACTION PARTY), DR. KRASAE CHANAWONG (LEADER OF THE FORMER NEW FORCE PARTY), RETIRED AIR CHIEF MARSHAL THAWI CHUNLASAP (LEADER OF THE FORMER SOCIAL JUSTICE PARTY), RETIRED MG PRAMAN ADIREKSAN (LEADER OF THE FORMER THAI NATION PARTY), SENI PRAMOT (FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE FORMER DEMOCRAT PARTY), SAWAT KHAMPRAKIP (LEADER OF THE FORMER SOCIAL AGRARIAN PARTY), KAMON WANNAPRAPHA (FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE), BUNCHANA ATTHAKON (FORMER MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.), KAMON THONGTHAMMACHAT (DEAN OF POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY, CHULALONGKON UNIVERSITY), AND CHITTI TINGSAPHAT (FORMER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE UNDER THE SENI GOVERNMENT).

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3. THE 25 MEMBERS OF THE NLA ELECTED INCLUDED: KONTHI SUPPHAMONGKON, POLICE COL KRIT SANGKASAP, KAMTHON PHANTHULAP, CHUSANGA RITTHIPRASAT, CHUB KANCHANAPRAKON, CHANA RUNGSAENG, LTG PRASIT CHAUCHUEN, PRATHUANG KIRABUT, PHAIROT CHAIYANAM, MICHAIRUCHUPHAN, COL MANIRAT CHARUCHIN, SOMBON SIRIDON, LTG SAMING TAILANKA, SANON

SAISAWANG, SAWAENG BUTTHASATHIT, SIRI ATIPHOT, UDON
TANTISUNTHON, ADUN WICHIECHARUN, LUANG ATTHAPAIATSADUDEE,
OSOT KOSIN, ATTATHON CHULARAT, LTG KAN RATTANAWARAHRA,
MRS. RAEM PHROMMOBON, DR. AMONG CHANTHARASONBUN, AND
PRACHUM RATTANAPHIAN. (BIO IDENTIFICATION OF THE NLA
MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE SUBMITTED IN SPTEL).

4. COMMENT: THE 10 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT
AND APPROVED BY THE NLA INCLUDE THE MAJOR PARTY FIGURES
FROM THE PERIOD OF THE DEMOCRATIC EXPERIMENT. THEIR
PARTIES REMAIN FORMALLY ABOLISHED, AS THEY HAVE BEEN
SINCE THE COUP OF OCT, 1976, ALTHOUGH LEADING PARTY
FIGURES HAVE REMAINED IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER. THEIR
INCLUSION, ON THE NOMINATION OF THE GOVERNMENT, TENDS
TO STRENGTHEN THE COMMITMENT TO GENERAL ELECTIONS IN
1978 OR EARLY 1979, AS THESE LEADERS CAN BE EXPECTED
TO PRESS FOR GENUINE ELECTIONS.

5. THE INTERIM CONSTITUTION APPROVED NOV 9 WILL REMAIN
IN EFFECT UNTIL A NEW CONSTITUTION IS ADOPTED.
O'DONOHUE

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